MARVEL® 25TH ANNIVERSARY

DAREDEVIL®

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MAZZUCCHELLI

GOD AND COUNTRY

GIVE ME A *RED.*

OUR BOYS-- OUR BOYS--

NUKE-- THAT'S *WRONG,* BOY. YOU'VE GOT IT *WRONG.*

YOU ARE *NOT* IN *VIET NAM--*

--YOU ARE *NOT* LOOKING FOR *MIAS.*

THIS IS *NICARAGUA--*

BETSY-- FORGOT TO SET *BETSY--*

GOOD COUNT-- BEST *YET--*

162

--I'LL *TOP* IT FOR YOU, COLONEL.

000

YOU'LL GET YOUR *CHANCE* BOY.

THERE'S A *LOT* OF THEM DOWN THERE.

AND THEY'RE *HOLDING--* OUR *BOYS--*

BETSY HUMS AS THE RED STARTS COMING IN AROUND THE EDGES AND THE COLONEL'S VOICE STOPS SLOWING THINGS DOWN.

--OUR BOYS--

BETSY, SHE KNOWS WHAT TO DO. THE PROGRAM'S ALL SET.

STAGE ONE.

NAPALM.

SHE KNOWS WHAT TO DO.

SHE KEEPS THE COUNT.

005

RED'S KICKING IN BUT GOOD NOW-- ADRENALIN RUSH LIKE A ROCKET BLAST--

BRAKABRAK

032

BUDDA BUDDA

045

BRAK!

OUR BOYS--

KKK

088

GIVE ME A *WHITE.*

WHERE *NEXT?*

YOU'RE NOT GOING TO *BELIEVE* THIS, BOY.

YOU'RE HOPPING A *CIVILIAN* PLANE. GOING *STATESIDE.* *NEW YORK.*

ORDER CAME DOWN WHILE YOU WERE MOPPING *UP.* STRAIGHT FROM THE *GENERAL.*

GENERAL SEEMS TO HAVE GOTTEN HIMSELF SOME NEW *FRIENDS.*

NEW YORK--*AMERICA*...

AMERICA.

...SO *GLAD* YOU COULD TAKE MY *CALL*, MR. FISK... AH... JUST THOUGHT YOU'D BE GLAD TO *KNOW*...

...AH... *NUKE*--I MEAN AGENT *SIMPSON*... WELL, HE'S *EN ROUTE*, MR. FISK. COMING YOUR *WAY*, JUST LIKE YOU... LIKE YOU *WANTED*...

...I HAVE... AH... *DELIVERED THE GOODS*, MR. FISK... AND... AND, WELL...

...WELL, I'M *WAITING* FOR THE GOODS YOU PROMISED *ME*...

NUKE.

SUCH A SIMPLE TERM. SO DIRECT.

AND NOW THE KING-PIN OF CRIME WILL AIM THIS NUKE AT THE MAN HE IS LEARNING TO HATE.

THE MAN HE IS LEARNING TO FEAR.

MURDOCK.

KAREN PAGE TRIES TO SCREAM BUT THE ONLY SOUND SHE CAN MAKE IS A DRY SUCKING--

--SUCKING. SHE THINKS OF WHAT SHE LEARNED IN COLLEGE --IN SCIENCE CLASS--WHAT SHE LEARNED ABOUT BLACK HOLES--

--STARS THAT COLLAPSE IN ON THEMSELVES AND STOP SHINING--COLLAPSE UNTIL THERE'S NOTHING LEFT LESS THAN NOTHING--

--JUST A HOLE THAT SUCKS EVERYTHING IN AND TAKES IT NOWHERE-- JUST SUCKS AND SUCKS--

--AND SHE'D GO SHE'D DISAPPEAR AND IT WOULDN'T MATTER-- BUT HIS ARMS ARE STRONG AND HE HOLDS HER HERE ON EARTH--

--THINK OF HIM--THINK OF MATT MURDOCK--

--MATT--THEY ALMOST GOT MARRIED ONCE BEFORE SHE WENT FOR THE MOVIES--BEFORE SHE LEFT HIM TO BECOME A STAR--

--AND THE MOVIES GOT WORSE AND WORSE AND PIECE BY PIECE KAREN PAGE SOLD HER SOUL--

--THE LAST PIECE SHE SOLD FOR A SHOT OF HEROIN-- A LOUSY FIX FOR THE LOUSY JUNKIE SHE'D BECOME--

--THE LAST PIECE OF HER-- MATT--SHE SOLD MATT OUT-- TOLD A PUSHER THAT MATT IS DAREDEVIL--

--AND THE PUSHER SOLD THAT TO MATT'S ENEMIES--AND THEY TOOK MATT'S HOME AND CAREER AND EVERYTHING--

--NO--NOT EVERYTHING--

--"NOTHING," HE'D SAID, MATT DID, WHEN SHE TOLD HIM WHAT SHE'D DONE--

--"I'VE LOST NOTHING," MATT SAID, AND LAUGHED LIKE A BOY--

--AND KAREN DIDN'T UNDERSTAND--AND MATT KISSED HER--

--AND HELD HER...

...AND KNOWS EXACTLY WHAT TO SAY AND WHEN TO MAKE HER EAT AND HOW TO TOUCH THE MUSCLES IN HER BACK TO MAKE HER SLEEP...

...THAT'S HIS SENSES. HIS CRAZY SENSES.

HE WAS A BOY. IT WAS BEFORE SHE MET HIM. HE WAS BLINDED BY RADIATION OR SOMETHING AND HIS REMAINING SENSES BECAME SUPERHUMAN.

SHE NEVER TOLD THEM ABOUT THE SENSES.

AND SHE NEVER TOLD THEM--ABOUT THE MAN.

STAN LEE presents

GOD AND COUNTRY

by FRANK MILLER and DAVID MAZZUCCHELLI

MAX SCHEELE
COLORS

JOE ROSEN
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RALPH MACCHIO
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JIM SHOOTER
EDITOR IN CHIEF

From the length of my ENTOURAGE, you'd think I'm a visiting DIGNITARY--or a CROOK.

I'm NEITHER. My name is BEN URICH. I'm a REPORTER.

These days, I'm a reporter in the HOT SEAT--investigating the city's top CRIMINAL--the KINGPIN--and trying to stay ALIVE all the while.

Staying ALIVE involves finding the Kingpin's ENEMY--and my FRIEND. A man named MATT MURDOCK who has a lot of SECRETS and seems to have grown MORE.

Like where he IS.

YOU'VE BEEN CLOSE TO *MURDOCK* SINCE *COLLEGE*, HAVEN'T YOU, MR. NELSON?

CLOSE AS *ANYBODY*, I GUESS.

LOOK, I'LL ONLY *TALK* IF IT'S GOING TO *HELP* MATT, MR. URICH. I MEAN, SUPPOSE HE DOESN'T *WANT* TO BE FOUND...

YOU THINK IT'S A GOOD *IDEA* FOR A *BLIND* MAN TO WANDER OFF *ALONE*?

NO, BUT...

But MATT is no ORDINARY blind man. I know that, NELSON. Do YOU?

...OKAY, MR. URICH, I'LL *TRUST* YOU. MATT ALWAYS SPOKE WELL OF YOU AND THAT'S GOOD ENOUGH FOR *ME*.

ALL OF THOSE *CHARGES* AGAINST HIM ARE *FALSE*--AND YOU CAN BET I'LL HAVE HIS *APPEAL* READY, JUST AS SOON AS THIS WHOLE MESS GETS *UNTANGLED*. BUT... WELL...

...WELL, EVER SINCE OUR *LAW FIRM* WENT UNDER --AND EVEN *BEFORE*--MATT'S BEEN...

...WELL, I SPOKE WITH HIM--I MEAN, HE *PHONED* ME, AFTER HIS *HOUSE* BLEW UP, AND... HE SOUNDED VERY *CONFUSED*...

HE SOUNDED *CRAZY*, MR. NELSON. I'VE SPOKEN WITH HIM *MYSELF*.

I WOULDN'T GO SO FAR AS TO SAY *THAT*. MATT'S ALWAYS BEEN KIND OF *HIGH STRUNG*. I MEAN, YOU JUST CAN'T ALWAYS *WORRY*...

...I'M SURE HE'LL BE ...LOOK, LET ME SHOW YOU WHAT I'VE GOT WORKED UP FOR THE *APPEAL*.

OF COURSE, THERE'S STILL A LOT OF *EVIDENCE* TO-- *WHOOPS*--

DARN IT-- I'M SUCH A--

WHERE DID YOU GET THESE *PHOTOS*?

GLORI... UM ... GLORIANNA O'BREEN... SHE'S--

MATT'S GIRLFRIEND? HE NEVER *TOLD* ME. BUT THEN, HE WOULDN'T *KNOW*...

WILL YOU BE *SEEING* HER ANY TIME SOON?

YEAH. YEAH. I... UM... I'LL BE SEEING HER *TONIGHT*...

ASK HER TO CALL ME. PLEASE.

IT'S NOT LIKE SHE'S SOME FINE ART GALLERY FLIRT LOOKING TO COURT THE WINE AND CHEESE CROWD AND TALK ABOUT HER CHILDHOOD AS IF IT WERE WORTH THE TELLING.

SHE'S JUST GOT EYES, IS ALL, AND THINGS KEEP LEAPING OUT AT HER.

LIKE THAT MAN THERE SO BIG AND TOUGH AND JUST THE SAME HOLDING ONTO THAT JACKHAMMER FOR DEAR LIFE--

--JUST LEAPED OUT AND BEGGED TO BE TAKEN.

IT'S ALMOST ROBBERY, THINKS GLORIANNA O'BREEN.

GIVE ME A BLUE.

UM... EXCUSE ME, SIR--ABOUT THAT BEER YOU ORDERED--

--WE DON'T HAVE THE BRAND YOU ASKED FOR-- IT ISN'T MADE ANYMORE-- SO WE SUBSTITUTED--

AAAA--

THIS BRAND-- WHERE WAS IT BREWED?

M--MILWAUKEE.

DON'T WORRY, BOY. IT'S AMERICAN.

ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT.

TROUBLE, MR. FISK. IT'S YOUR GIRL LOIS.

SINCE SHE WAS *APPREHENDED* TRYING TO MURDER BEN URICH'S *WIFE*--SHE'S BEEN *TALKING* ABOUT *YOU*.

THE *DISTRICT ATTORNEY* HAS AGREED TO *REDUCED CHARGES* IN EXCHANGE FOR HER TURNING *STATE'S EVIDENCE*.

I'M AFRAID THAT'S NOT *ALL*. EVER SINCE *URICH* GOT ON *YOUR* CASE HE'S BEEN *COZY* WITH THE D.A.--

--AND NOW HE'S LANDED AN *INTERVIEW* WITH LOIS.

COMMISSIONER...YOU WILL SEE TO IT THAT OFFICER *COOGAN* IS ON DUTY AT THE TIME OF THE INTERVIEW

THAT IS ALL

MR. *FISK*... ABOUT THOSE *PICTURES*...

EMBARRASSING, AREN'T THEY, COMMISSIONER? SUCH AN *ORDINARY* COCKTAIL WAITRESS. YOUR WIFE WOULD BE *INSULTED*.

YOU NEED NOT *WORRY*, MY FRIEND. I WILL KEEP THE PHOTOS *SAFE*

QUITE SAFE

AW, GLORI, I WAS *COUNTING* ON TONIGHT...WHAT? A NEW *JOB*?...

THE *DAILY BUGLE*, NO *KIDDING*. I GUESS URICH WAS *SERIOUS*. I DIDN'T KNOW *YOU* WERE...

...*NO*, HONEY, I DIDN'T MEAN *ANYTHING* BY THAT...

...IT'S JUST THAT YOUR *PHOTOGRAPHY* NEVER... I MEAN, YOU NEVER *TALKED* ABOUT IT...NO, NO - MORE LIKE A *HOBBY*...

...YES I GUESS I *DO* KNOW NOW... OF *COURSE* I'M HAPPY FOR YOU, HONEY...

...WELL, I JUST WANTED TO *TALK* TO YOU...IT'S THIS *JOB*. IT...

...OH, FOR *CORPORATE* WORK IT'S *OKAY*...AND THE *PAY* IS *GREAT*... BUT...

...BUT SOME OF THE *WORK* THEY DO HERE...I'M NOT SURE IT'S *LEGITIMATE*...

HE'D BEEN UP ALL NIGHT WITH HER

IT WAS EARLY IN THE MORNING AND HE BOUGHT A RAZOR AND WAS SHAVING. HE WAS ABOUT TO GO TO WORK--

--HE ACTUALLY LIKES THAT JOB HE FOUND--

-- WHEN KAREN FELL ASLEEP.

SHE WOKE ALONE BUT THAT'S OKAY NOW. THE WORST IS OVER. FOR ME IT'S OVER SHE THINKS.

--BUT MATT--WHAT'S HE GOING THROUGH?

AND WHAT'S HE WAITING FOR?

NIGHT AFTER NIGHT HE KEEPS TOUCHING THE COSTUME AND PACING AND FROWNING LIKE A LITTLE KID WHO HAS TO STAY AFTER CLASS. WHY DOESN'T HE JUST PUT THE THING ON AND DANCE ACROSS THE BUILDINGS--HE'S LIKE A GOD WHEN HE DOES THAT--HE'S ACHING FOR IT.

WE'VE BOTH CHANGED, MATT. I USED TO WORRY WHEN YOU DID PUT IT ON. BUT NOW...

...YOU'RE WARM AND SWEET AND STRONG BUT THERE'S SOMETHING...SOMETHING NEW

...SOMETHING COLD AND HARD. SOMETHING WAITING.

SOMETHING FRIGHTENING.

HE'S STILL MATT. SHE THINKS. AND SLEEPS.

It's the city JAIL. They call it the TOMBS They have their REASONS

SAVE YOUR *FILM* GLORI. *LOCATION* SHOTS YOU CAN SELL TO *TOURISTS* GET THE *PEOPLE* -- AND GET THE *ACTION*. THAT'S WHAT *STORIES* ARE MADE OF.

YOU'VE EXPLAINED IT WELL *ENOUGH*, MR. URICH.

SHOULDN'T GET *TESTY* WITH URICH GLOR *JAMESON* MADE HIM *RESPONSIBLE* FOR YO). AND *URICH*, HE'S A REAL *LONER* DOESN'T EVEN IKE HAVING THE *COP* ALONG.

KLIK

DRIVES HIM *CRAZY* HAVING *ME*. BUT *JAMESON* SAID HE NEEDS AN *ASSOCIATE* AND I GOT *JUST* THE RIGHT *FRIENDS*

SHUT UP BLANDERS

I'M NO LONER, GLORI .

YOU RE CLOSE TO *LOSING* THAT *ARM*.

BEN URICH, DAILY BUGLE.

HEGERFORS.

COOGAN

KLIK

URICH

LOIS. .

klak
klik

DON'T HAVE TO *LOCK* IT, COOGAN. THERE'S *PLENTY* OF US...

COOGAN -- WHAT ARE YOU .

WH--

BLAM

KLIK

BLAMM

KBLAMM

BLAMM

KLIK

BLAMM

KLIK

KLIK

WHMPP

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KLIK

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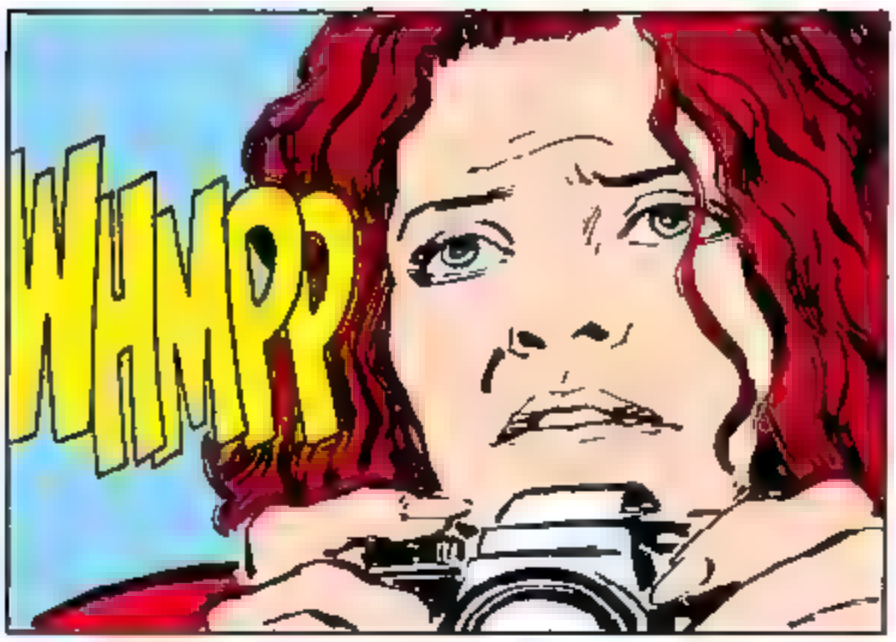
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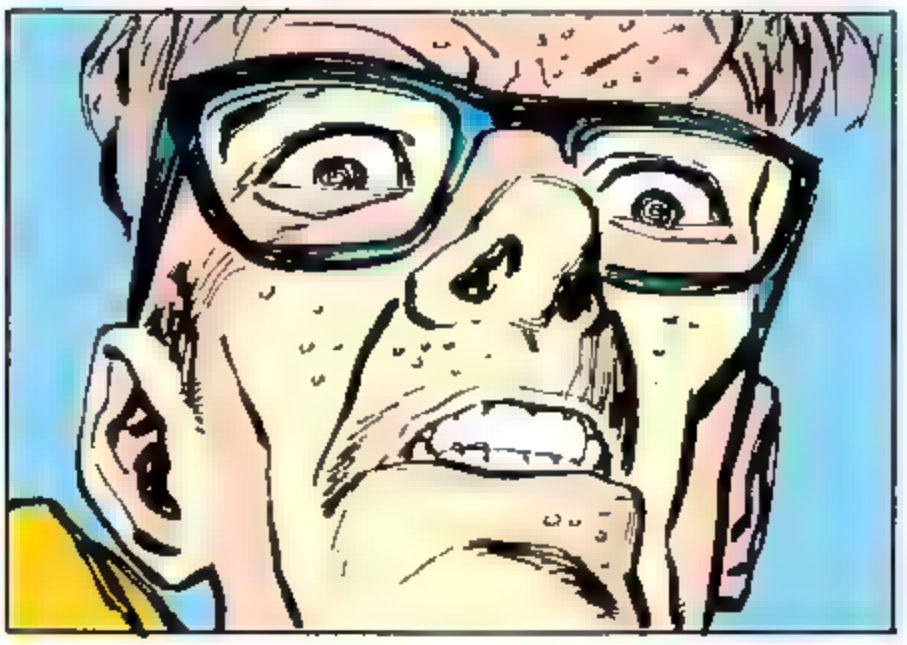

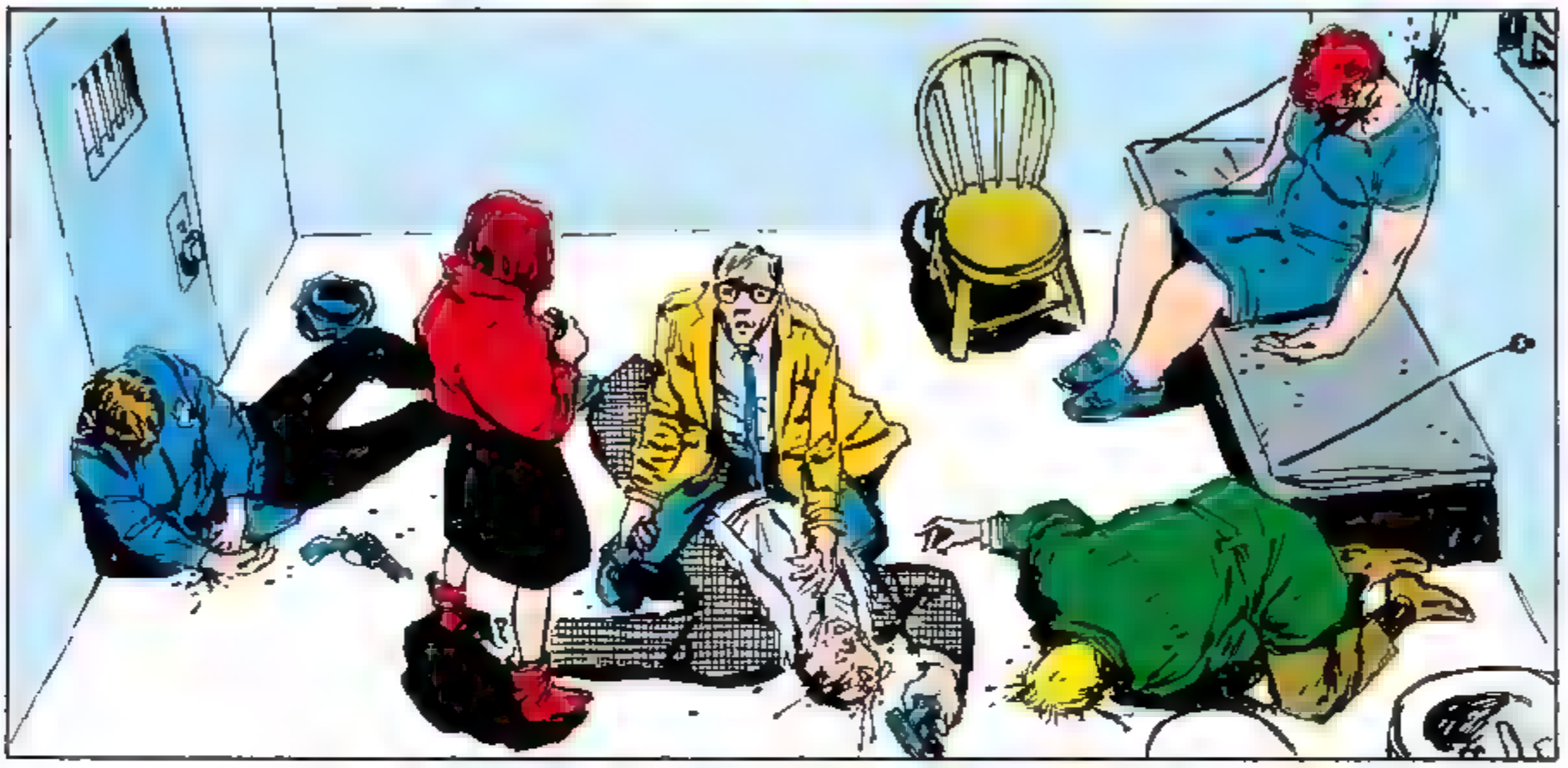

YOUR PREDECESSOR - THE FIRST SUPER SOLDIER - FACED SIMPLER TIMES THAN OURS. MY FRIEND , AND SIMPLER WARS. SO MUCH HAS CHANGED
SO MUCH. WE WHO LOVE AMERICA ARE NOW SURROUNDED --BY LYING ASSASSINS AND SOFT-HEARTED FOOLS.
WE PATRIOTS-- THEY LAUGH AT US MY SON...

. I AM SORRY. YOU REMIND ME SO OF MY OWN SON A FINE BOY HE IS. A VETERAN...
. I SHALL BE HONEST WITH YOU. THERE ARE MANY WHO OPPOSE ME.

I AM UNDER CONSTANT SCRUTINY BY THE POLICE. I AM, IN THE STRICTEST DEFINITION OF THE LAW, A CRIMINAL.
I KNOW THIS STARTLES YOU. BUT AS I SAID-- SO MUCH HAS CHANGED. AMERICAS ENEMIES HAVE GROWN SO STRONG THAT OUR BOYS DIE IN AS AN JUNGLES--
--AND OUR PEOPLE WILL NOT HONOR THEM...

OUR BOYS...

...AND IT *TORTURES* ME THAT THE NOBLE CONCEPT OF *FREE ENTERPRISE*--THE CROWNING *TRIUMPH* OF OUR FOREFATHERS HAS BEEN *MURDERED* BY ENDLESS, CORROSIVE *LEGISLATION*

TO SIMPLY KEEP SOME *SHADOW* OF THAT DREAM *ALIVE*, I MUST... MUST *BREAK* THE LAW...

...EXCUSE ME...I...

STILL, WE ARE NOT *ALONE*, NUKE. THERE ARE *OTHERS* WHO BELIEVE--ENOUGH, BARELY ENOUGH OF US, TO KEEP THE *HOPE* ALIVE.

WE WHO...*DECIDE* SUCH THINGS HAVE FORMED A PROUD *TRINITY*--OF *STATE*--AND *MILITARY*--AND *BUSINESS*. WE MUST HAVE *UNITY*--AGAINST THE *MADNESS* THAT SURROUNDS US--AGAINST THE *INFECTION* OF THE AMERICAN *SPIRIT*.

THERE ARE THOSE WHO SAY THAT *UNITY* IS *CONSPIRACY*--THAT *AMERICA* IS *EVIL*--

I KNOW *WHAT THEY SAY* I KNOW WHAT THEY SAY.

--AND NOW A SINGLE *MAN* THREATENS TO *DESTROY* WHAT WE HAVE BUILT HE MOVES *AGAINST* ME--CALLS ME A *VILLAIN*.

I AM *NOT* A VILLAIN, MY SON. I AM A *CORPORATION*--IN THE *CONGLOMERATE* THAT IS *AMERICA*. BUT HIS ALLIES IN THE *PRESS*--

THE *PRESS*...

WHERE IS HE?

HELL'S KITCHEN

HELL'S KITCHEN IS ACHING MUSCLES AND GROWLING STOMACHS-- CHILDREN'S FEET ON BROKEN GLASS-- HOPELESS LAUGHTER, ECHOING ACROSS AN EMPTY LOT.

HELL'S KITCHEN IS WHERE I WAS BORN AND BORN AGAIN.

THE BURGERS SIZZLE AND SNAP. THE BACON POPS ON THE GRIDDLE, NEARLY READY. THE EGGS-- THEY'RE THE BEST PART--

--OVER EASY-- HOT SECONDS TO GET THEM JUST SOLID ENOUGH-- THEN FLIP THEM NEATLY QUICKLY--

--THEN GET THEM OFF WHILE THE YOLK IS STILL QUIVERING, BARELY CONTAINED...

...ANOTHER DAY PASSES. ANOTHER DAY OF WAITING.

QUITTING TIME, RED SEE YOU IN THE MORNING.

GIVE THE BURGERS ABOUT TEN MORE SECONDS AND THEY'LL BE PERFECT.

GOOD CROWD TONIGHT--

--THAT COUGH

--REN--

...HE SOUNDS LIKE HE'S IN SHOCK...

...I COME HERE TO WRITE. FOOD'S TERRIBLE SO NOBODY'S EVER HERE.

LOOKS PRETTY CROWDED TO ME.

YOU LOOK THIN, RED TAKE THIS HOME. YOU NEVER HAD SUCH COBBLER

TERRIBLE NEIGHBORHOOD

HELL'S KITCHEN. RIGHT LOUSY NEIGHBORHOOD, DANGEROUS. BUT MATT WAS BORN HERE AND I--

--DID I-- DO I REALLY KILL THAT MAN

YOU SAVED OUR LIVES, BEN.

BEST BURGER I EVER HAD...

CAN'T HELP YOU YET, BEN. CAN'T BE SEEN WITH ANYONE, UNTIL -

-- THAT SOUND...

...CHECKED MATT'S MEDICAL RECORDS AND FOUND SOMETH NG FUNNY. IT'S ABOUT HIS MOTHER -- MATT ALWAYS SAID SHE DIED GIV NG BIRTH TO HIM BUT.

. BLANDERS. I REALLY KILLED HIM...

Diner

..THAT'S NO POLICE HELICOPTER...

THE CLUE WAS SLIM INDEED -- THE WORDS OF A THIRD RATE THUG WHO CLAIMS HE HAD THE PLEASURE OF STABBING MURDOCK SOME DAYS PAST.

IT WOULD BE A LOGICAL HIDING PLACE. IT HOLDS MANY OF THE LOST AND NAMELESS. IT WAS HIS HOME, AS A BOY

YES MURDOCK WILL REVEAL H MSELF -- WHEN HELL'S KITCHEN BURNS.

SKIP THE NAPALM, BOY. THOSE ARE AMERICANS. JUST MESS THINGS UP. LITTLE PROPERTY DAMAGE CAN GO A LONG WAY.

WE'RE BRINGING YOU IN LOW...

LOW, TOO NEAR THE STREET -- THE MOTOR, ROARING --

-- DUST AND DIRT AND BLOWING GARBAGE -

-- COUGHING -- STARTLED GASPS -- AN ANGRY SHOUT --

SOMETHING HUMAN -- HISSES --

OUR BOYS --

BOOM KAKABOOM

THREE NO IT'S FOUR BLOCKS AWAY--

--BULLETS CUT THROUGH FLESH AND BONE--

--A WOMAN HOLDS HER BABY CLOSE AND HEARS HIM GURGLE

--A LUNG COLLAPSES--

--THREE BLOCKS NOW--A MAN CHOKES OUT HALF A NAME AND DIES--

PFAMM

--FROM THE GUN--A ROCKET--

WHOOM

Diner

A WINO CRIES TO GOD

GET YOUR CAMERA.

PFAMM

--ANOTHER ROCKET-- HEADED FOR --

--KAREN...

WHOOM

MOVING UP, BOY-- GOT COMPANY--

ONE MORE--

PFAMM

MATT-- AM I DYING?

NO, NO, HONEY.

EVERYTHING IMPORTANT IN YOU--IS SAFE.

SAFE. I KEPT IT SAFE FOR YOU, MATT.

I THOUGHT I'D HAVE TO BE A LOT MORE PATIENT THAN THIS, KINGPIN.

I THOUGHT I'D HAVE TO WAIT FOR WEEKS--

--FOR YOU TO GET SLOPPY-- LIKE YOU DID WITH MY HOUSE.

KPWEE KPWEEE KPWEE

ENEMY FIRE.

A CHOPPER.

KOOM

PFAMM

THE PILOT SCREAMS AN ALERT--THE GUNNER GOES TO HIS DEATH WITH A CURSE--

--TWO LOVERS SLEEP QUIETLY--

--THE SCREAMING STARTS.

FROM EVERYWHERE.

HE PASSES CLOSE--

THWAKK

SPAKK

FAPP

GIVE ME A RED.

DD

MILTON19